

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 104393

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (RIBICOFF, ABRAHAM A.)

SUBJECT: CODEL RIBICOFF

1. CODEL PRESENTLY INCLUDES RIBICOFF, ROTH, BENTSEN, HANSEN, NELSON AND DANFORTH, FOUR CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS AND THE WIVES OF SENATORS RIBICOFF, BENTSEN AND DANFORTH. OTHERS MAY BE ADDED ON LATER, INCLUDING POSSIBLY CHAIRMAN RUSSELL LONG.

2. TENTATIVE TRAVEL PLANS ARE TO ARRIVE GENEVA LATE MAY 25. NOTHING SCHEDULED MAY 26. ON SATURDAY, MAY 27, MEETINGS REGARDING VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (SEE BELOW) MAY 29-30: SCHEDULE TO BE ARRANGED BY STR. MAY 31: MEETINGS IN MORNING ON SALT. DEPARTURE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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AFTERNOON FOR LONDON BY RIBICOFF, ROTH, HANSEN, NELSON, ACCOMPANYING WIVES AND STAFF MEMBERS. DANFORTH WILL LEAVE FOR HOME AND BENTSEN WILL REMAIN ON FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ON SALT.

3. LONDON SCHEDULE TENTATIVELY IS AS FOLLOWS:
ARRIVAL LONDON AFTERNOON OF MAY 31. ON JUNE 1, NOTHING

SCHEDULED FOR THE MORNING BUT CODEL IS AVAILABLE FOR LUNCHEON AND AFTERNOON MEETINGS AS WELL AS FOR MEETINGS ALL OF JUNE 2. CODEL DEPARTS FOR HOME ON SATURDAY, JUNE 3.

4. FOR GENEVA: CODEL INFORMED US INITIALLY THAT, FOR THE MAY 27 SCHEDULING, THEY HAD IN MIND A MORNING BRIEFING FROM THE MISSION TO BE FOLLOWED BY A LUNCHEON WITH APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED IN GENEVA. WHILE THERE IS NO LEGISLATIVE ISSUE REGARDING THESE ORGANIZATIONS CURRENTLY BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (OF WHICH RIBICOFF IS CHAIRMAN), RIBICOFF WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF HIS PRESENCE IN GENEVA TO DISCUSS THE OPERATIONS OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND ANY ISSUES OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE. WE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH SCHEDULING MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR A SATURDAY AND RIBICOFF'S STAFF AGREED THAT THE MISSION'S ADVICE SHOULD BE REQUESTED ON WHAT MIGHT BE ARRANGED. PLEASE ADVISE WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON SCHEDULING POSSIBILITIES FOR THAT DATE.

5. FOR GENEVA: YOUR SUGGESTIONS ON SALT BRIEFING FOR MORNING OF MAY 31 WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED. IS THERE A PLENARY THEY COULD ATTEND? NOTE THAT SENATOR BENTSEN PLANS TO REMAIN ON FOR FURTHER BRIEFINGS ON SALT. DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS WE MAY PASS TO BENTSEN?
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6. FOR LONDON: RIBICOFF WANTS A LUNCHEON TO BE SCHEDULED WITH THE HEADS OF THE VARIOUS COMMODITY GROUPS IN LONDON AS THE EMBASSY DID ONCE BEFORE. LUNCHEON SHOULD DEFINITELY INCLUDE THE HEADS OF THE WHEAT, TIN AND SUGAR COUNCILS. ALSO DESIRABLE ARE THE HEADS OF THE COCOA AND COFFEE COUNCILS AND OF THE RUBBER STUDY GROUP. THE COCOA COUNCIL HEAD MAY BE DROPPED IF THE GROUP APPEARS TOO UNWIELDY. THE LUNCHEON COULD, IF YOU BELIEVE DESIRABLE, BE ASSOCIATED WITH A SEPARATE DISCUSSION OR SERIES OF DISCUSSIONS. ROTH AND RIBICOFF WISH TO MEET WITH THE BOARD OF TRADE TO DISCUSS THEIR DEPARTMENT OF TRADE BILL. THE CODEL ALSO WOULD APPRECIATE APPOINTMENTS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND DENIS HEALEY, EDMUND DELL, APPROPRIATE CONSERVATIVE COUNTERPARTS AND, IF POSSIBLE, MARGARET THATCHER.

7. FURTHER DETAILS ON CODEL TRAVEL PLANS IS IN STAHNKE MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES OF APRIL 12, COPIES OF WHICH HAVE BEEN SENT TO YOU. COMPOSITION OF CODEL AND SCHEDULE ARE STILL TENTATIVE. WE WILL ADVISE WHEN FIRMER INFORMATION RECEIVED. YOUR ADVICE ON SCHEDULING WOULD BE

APPRECIATED BY CODEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. VANCE

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